



McGregor W. Scott
United States Attorney
Eastern District of California

Sacramento
501 I. Street, Ste 10-100
Sacramento CA 95814
Tel (916) 554-2700
TTY (916) 554-2855

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno
2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel (559) 497-4000
TTY (559) 497-4500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2006

Contact: Mary Wenger (916) 554-2730
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home/>

**GRASS VALLEY MAN INDICTED FOR MANUFACTURING
MORE THAN 500 MARIJUANA PLANTS**

SACRAMENTO-- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that PATRICK JAMES CASSIDY, age 48, of Nevada City, California, was charged in a two count indictment with manufacturing more than 100 marijuana plants and possessing more than 100 marijuana plants with intent to distribute, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1).

This case is the product of an investigation by the Nevada County Sheriff and the Nevada County Drug Enforcement Task Force, with the assistance of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Robert M. Twiss, who is prosecuting the case, information presented in court documents showed that CASSIDY had approximately 523 growing marijuana plants at the time of his arrest on August 25, 2006, at his residence in Grass Valley. If convicted, CASSIDY could be sentenced to imprisonment for as long as 80 years, together with a \$2,000,000 fine. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

###